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# ENG 1002G-016: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE  
ENGLISH 1002G (Spring 2009)

### Objectives:

- to promote careful, coherent, substantive writing;
- to encourage active, thoughtful reading of world-class drama, fiction, and poetry;
- to increase understanding of views and cultures represented in literature;
- to sharpen critical thinking -- the analysis of ideas and evidence;
- to provide experience using primary and secondary evidence.

**Scope:** During the term you will read a range of drama, fiction, and poetry. You will complete three typed essays of three-four pages (700-800 words) of argument, plus a “Works Cited.” You will write two essays in class (500-600 words each). To help you write the in-class essays, you can bring outlines but not complete drafts. As a capstone experience, you will interpret a range of stories and poems during a final in-class exam. The final exam will require you to write two short interpretations (about 250-300 words each) and one essay (about 500-600 words). In addition, a portion of your grade will reflect class participation. Here’s a breakdown of the components that will determine your final grade for the course:

- three out-of-class essays supported with research: 50% of grade
- two in-class essays: 25% of grade
- class participation: 10% of grade
- final examination: 15% of grade

**Grading Policy:** For the essays and final, I will grade using a simple ten-point scale. That is, a 92% is an A-, an 87% is a B+, and so on. When I grade the essays and the final, I will consider content (purpose, reasoning, evidence), organization and coherence, grammar and mechanics, and style. Keep in mind that an essay or a final will fail if it is radically deficient in any of the areas for grading I have mentioned. After all, readers are

served neither by a technically perfect essay that is superficial and empty nor an otherwise thoughtful essay that is riddled with distracting errors and infelicities.

Revision Opportunity: You can revise your first in-class essay for up to 15% over your original grade.

Late/Absence Policy: You are expected to hand in your work on time and in class. You will forfeit five points each day for late work and five points for work placed in my mail on the due date. If you are enrolled in another class or engaged in any other activity that may cause you to miss a significant number of classes in 1002G, you should not attempt to take 1002G this term. If you have an excused absence, I will arrange time for you to catch up with written work. For an excused absence, you must provide a verifiable excuse from Health Service, a doctor, or a University official. After three unexcused absences, you will forfeit 10% of the course grade and 5% for each subsequent absence. If for any reasons you miss nine or more days (three weeks or more) in total, you cannot earn credit for the course.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is a serious offense; it is intellectual theft and fraud. Accordingly, plagiarism will be punished in conformity with English Department and University procedures. Here is the English Department's statement concerning plagiarism:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism --"The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own work"-- (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of "F" for the assigned essay and a grade of "F" for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Electronic Writing Portfolio Submissions: The EWP requires that submissions include at least 750 words. If you want to submit an essay from this class, you must give me the graded hardcopy of the essay you submit online.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

1. Week of January 12
  - Introduction to Course; Writing Assignment: Your Reading and Writing
  - “Greek Drama” and “Sophocles” (29-40)
  - Oedipus Rex* (40-51 to Scene 2); Writing Assignment Due
2. Week of January 19
  - Martin Luther King’s Birthday: No Classes
  - Oedipus the King* (51-64)
  - Further Discussion of Play; Introduction to Elizabethan Drama (188-99)
  - “Shakespeare” and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (200-215 to Act III)
3. Week of January 26
  - King’s Birthday: No Classes
  - A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (215-33); Assignment for In-Class Essay of Interpretive Summary of a Play
  - Video of Shakespeare’s Play; Further Discussion of Play
4. Week of February 2
  - “Arthur Miller” and *Death of a Salesman* (699-720 to Act II)
  - Death of a Salesman* (720-740)
  - Further Discussion of Play; Review of Outlines for In-Class Essay; Introduction to Narrative Fiction
5. Week of February 9
  - In-Class Essay of Interpretive Summary of Drama Due**
  - Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado” (1149-54)
  - Poe’s “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1155-68); Assignment for Out-of-Class Essay of Interpretive Summary of Drama
6. Week of February 16
  - Hawthorne’s “Young Goodman Brown” (660-69); Assignment for In-Class Essay of Analysis
  - Gilman’s “The Yellow Wallpaper” (574-85)
  - Lincoln’s Birthday: No Classes
7. Week of February 23
  - Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily” (505-11)
  - O’Connor’s “The Artificial Nigger” (1109-23)
  - Melville’s “Bartelby the Scrivener” (986-99); **Out-of-Class Essay of Interpretation of Drama Due**

8. Week of March 2

- “Bartleby the Scrivener” (999-1011)
- Cather’s “Paul’s Case” (213-27)
- Crane’s “The Blue Hotel” (407-26)

9. Week of March 9

- Crane’s “The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky” (427-34); Review of Outlines for In-Class Essay on a Story
- Joyce’s “Araby” (775-79)
- Out-of-Class Essay of Analysis of a Story Due**

**SPRING RECESS**

10. Week of March 23

- Baldwin’s “Sonny’s Blues” (37-59)
- Ellison’s “King of the Bingo Game” (478-484)
- Malamud’s “The Magic Barrel” (933-45)

11. Week of March 30

- Oates’ “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” (1083-94)
- Thurber’s “The Catbird Seat” (1245-51)
- Welty’s “Petrified Man” (1326-35)

12. Week of April 6

- “Introduction” to Poetry (1-17); Dancing an Attitude: “Because I could not stop for Death” (174-75), “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night” (275-76), “Home Burial” (207-10), “The Last Words of My English Grandmother” (220-21)
- Now for Something Completely Different: “Anecdote of the Jar” (213-14), “Disillusionment of Ten O’Clock” (214), “The Red Wheelbarrow” (221), “This is Just to Say” (223), “nobody loses all the time” (248-49)
- In-Class Essay Comparing or Contrasting Stories Due;**

13. Week of April 13

- Rhythm and Rhyme (26-33); Handout of Poe’s “Annabel Lee;”  
**Nominations for Next Week’s Poems Due**
- “Free Verse, Open Form, and Closed Form” (33-40); from “Song of Myself” (165-72), “Easter Wings” (81), “Ode to the West Wind” (123-26)
- “Figurative Language” (17-23); Shakespeare’s Sonnets 18, 73, 116, 130 on pages 66-69; Donne’s “Holy Sonnet 24” (75)

14. Week of April 20

- “To His Coy Mistress” (89), “My Last Duchess” (11-13), “Dover Beach” (173-74)
- “Ulysses” (151-53), “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (235-39)
- “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” (98-102), “Ode on a Grecian Urn” (129-30)

15. Week of April 227

- Poems

- Poems; **Out-of-Class Essay on Poetry Due**

- Preparation for Final Examination

**NOTES**